



CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

15 OCTOBER 2020

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Moreno Valley – Authorities Seize Record Amount of Methamphetamine Tied to Sinaloa Cartel

(U) Federal authorities announced the results of Southern California raids early this month that led to the biggest domestic seizure of methamphetamine in Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) history. The DEA reported a total of 2,224-pounds of meth was seized on 2 October in an investigation of a drug-trafficking organization tied to the Sinaloa cartel. Warrants were served at stash houses in the Riverside County cities of Moreno Valley and Perris.

SOURCE: 14 October 2020, [AP](#)

(U) Sacramento – Police Make 40 Arrests, Seize 43 Guns Amid Recent Spike in Shootings

(U) On Wednesday, police released information on their recent mission against gun violence in the city. After increasing patrols over the past 12 days in direct response to recent shootings, Sacramento police say officers seized 43 illegally possessed weapons and have made 40 firearm-related arrests around the city. Sacramento police note that some of the people arrested were known felons and validated gang members, both groups are prohibited from legally owning guns.

SOURCE: 14 October 2020, [CBS13](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) Michigan – Man Charged with Federal Hate Crimes After Attacking Group

(U) Monroe – A Michigan man has been charged with federal hate crimes after allegedly attacking a group of three Black teenagers, sending one of them to the hospital, the Justice Department announced Tuesday. Multiple witnesses said they heard Lee Mouat, 42, yell racial slurs at the teens prior to the attack. Mouat allegedly struck one of the teens in the head with a bike lock. The victim was taken to the hospital and treated for facial fractures, lacerations and the loss of several teeth.

SOURCE: 14 October 2020, [CBS News](#)

(U) Washington – Investigation Uncovers QAnon Central Hub Hosting Phishing Scams

(U) Vancouver – An investigation by a private publication reveals that QAnon communications are being consolidated under the control of Jim Watkins, owner of the 8chan and 8kun image boards, through US based hosting company VanwaTech. Based in Vancouver, Washington, VanwaTech hosts only a handful of websites unrelated to QAnon, including the neo-Nazi website The Daily Stormer. The connection with Watkins was previously assumed, but the investigation reveals concrete evidence. VanwaTech also hosts several phishing sites posing as UK banks and cellular phone service providers, aiming to defraud customers of money. Since the removal of QMap, VanwaTech's operators have made a concerted effort to develop the company into a safe haven for the aggregator sites that disseminate the conspiracy material at the heart of QAnon.

SOURCE: 13 October 2020, [Logically](#)

(U) Wisconsin – Kenosha Shooting Suspect Faces Multiple Charges in Wisconsin

(U) Kenosha – Kyle Rittenhouse, the 17-year-old accused of shooting three people and killing two of

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them at an anti-racism protest in August, will not face charges in his home state of Illinois, the Lake County State's Attorney's Office announced Tuesday. In a news release, authorities said they determined the weapon used in the 25 August shooting had been purchased, stored, and used in Wisconsin and there was no evidence Rittenhouse ever used or possessed the weapon in the state of Illinois. In Wisconsin, Rittenhouse is charged with first-degree intentional homicide, attempted intentional homicide, and a misdemeanor charge of underage firearm possession.

SOURCE: 14 October 2020, [Insider](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Mexico – Authorities Capture Leader of Santa Rosa de Lima Cartel

(U) Guanajuato – Mexican security forces have captured drug gang leader Adán Ochoa, known as “El Azul,” who headed a cartel in central Mexico blamed for fanning a surge of violence this year. Guanajuato Governor Diego Sinhue announced Ochoa’s capture on Wednesday night. Ochoa rose to the head of the Santa Rosa de Lima Cartel after Mexican security forces captured the gang’s former boss, Jose Antonio Yopez, known as “El Marro,” in August. The Santa Rosa de Lima Cartel has been engaged in a bloody struggle for supremacy in the state with the Jalisco New Generation Cartel (CJNG), one of Mexico’s most powerful and violent gangs, leading to soaring violence in the region.

SOURCE: 14 October 2020, [Reuters](#)

(U) Nigeria – Boko Haram Militants Kill 14 Civilians

(U) Ngwom – Members of the Boko Haram militant group killed 14 civilians in an attack in northeastern Nigeria, local media reported Tuesday. The militants seized 15 people working in their fields in Ngwom village and attacked them with edged weapons. One of the civilians survived the attack but was seriously injured.

SOURCE: 14 October 2020, [Anadolu Agency](#)

(U) Somalia – Authorities Seize Tons of Sulfuric Acid Allegedly Being Smuggled to Al-Shabaab

(U) Mogadishu – Nearly 80-tons of sulfuric acid was seized in Somalia on Wednesday, which authorities alleged was being smuggled to the al-Shabaab militant group. "The investigation is being carried out jointly by NISA and the Anti-Terrorism Partnership," an official said. Sulfuric acid is one of the precursor industrial chemicals used in the manufacturing of powerful explosives.

SOURCE: 14 October 2020, [Anadolu Agency](#)

(U) Yemen – Two Americans Released by Houthi Militants After Years in Captivity

(U) Sanaa – Two Americans and the remains of a third held captive by Iranian-backed militants in Yemen were released on Wednesday in exchange for the return of about 250 of the Houthi militants from Oman, according to the White House and sources in the region. Oman's state news said the American captives were flown out of Yemen on an Omani plane. US officials said the two surviving Americans would soon be on their way back to the United States. A White House official said that one of the Americans had been held by the Houthis for about three-years and the other was held captive for about a year.

SOURCE: 14 October 2020, [AP](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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